Organise! Anarcho-Syndicalists in Ireland

Southern Bulletin

CLASS WAR

Irregular
Issue 1. May Day 2022

HOUSING CRISIS COST OF LIVING CRISIS

OUR CRISIS! THEIR PROFIT!

Workers of the world, awaken!

Break your chains, demand your rights.
All the wealth you make is taken
By exploiting parasites.
Shall you kneel in deep submission
From your cradles to your graves?
Is the height of your ambition
To be good and willing slaves?

Arise, ye prisoners of starvation!
Fight for your own emancipation;
Arise, ye slaves of ev'ry nation, in One Union Grand.
Our little ones for bread are crying;
And millions are from hunger dying;
The end the means is justifying,
'Tis the final stand.

If the workers take a notion,
They can stop all speeding trains;
Every ship upon the ocean
They can tie with mighty chains;
Every wheel in the creation,
Every mine and every mill,
Fleets and armies of the nation,
Will at their command stand still.

-Chorus-

Join the union, fellow workers,
Men and women, side by side;
We will crush the greedy shirkers
Like a sweeping, surging tide;
For united we are standing,
But divided we will fall;
Let this be our understanding-
"All for one and one for all."

-Chorus-

Workers of the world, awaken!
Rise in all your splendid might;
Take the wealth that you are making —
It belongs to you by right.
No one for bread will be crying,
We'll have freedom, love and health,
When the grand red flag is flying
In the Worker's commonwealth.

-Chorus-

Instead of getting better things just keep getting worse don't they? For the working class and the poor that is. The cost of living is increasing and there seems no end in sight to the housing crisis. Rents are extortionate, rental properties almost impossible to find. There is nothing broken about the system that gave us a total of over 112,000 vacant or derelict houses in the last quarter of 2021. That's almost 10% of housing stock empty, while affordable social housing is impossible to come by. While the estimate given for the number of homeless on our streets is close to 8500 the true figure is much higher. Yet there are more than enough homes for everyone who needs one!

How the fuck does that make sense? Well it does. Because, like we said, there is nothing broken here. It isn't working for the working class but it isn't meant to. Homelessness, empty properties, waiting lists and extortionate private rents are caused by a government that refuses point blank to interfere with the profits of landlords and wealthy speculators. The same goes for the companies with record profits gouging more money out of the poor to keep their wealthy owners in luxury.

So while we suffer, for the rich its all record profits and spending a fortune on jollies in space. Maybe the super rich are actually trying to get off the planet that they have fucked almost beyond repair? One thing is for certain, we can't afford to let them keep getting away with it. We can't keep being on the losing end of their class war. Its time to get organised and turn the tables on the fuckers.

Casting a vote isn't what we are talking about, nor can a rally or march in and of itself effect much in the way of change. Less still online activism, sharing or even writing a tweet, liking a radical post, we need to get stuck in to the serious work of educating, building connections and putting in the effort at the coalface of capitalism. Its time we got serious.

INSIDE: MAY DAY, CLASS WAR, SOLIDARITY WITH LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY, RISING TIDES, CAPITALIST PIGS IN SPACE...

WELCOME TO CLASS WAR!

Welcome to Class War, the new anarcho-syndicalist bulletin from members of Organise! in the Republic of Ireland. Our comrades in the north have been putting out Black Star regularly now for over a year and we thought it was past time for a bulletin of our own.

Not to be mistaken for the organisation (either the Class War Federation or the Class War Party) we have been inspired by Camillo Berneri's newspaper *Guerre de Classe* which was edited by him in Italy and then, in exile, in Spain until his assassination on May 5th 1937. Berneri along with Francesco Barbieri were taken out of their apartment by a dozen plainclothes men with red armbands and police. The corpses of the two Italian anarchists were found riddled with bullets - assassinated by Stalinist counter-revolutionaries during the Spanish Civil War.

Our focus is unashamedly working class. We would refute however that there is anything 'reductionist' about asserting that we see class as the fundamental cleavage in society and the working class, as a whole, as the group which has a real interest in the destruction of capitalist exploitation and oppression and the replacement of states, nations and corporations with a new world based on equality, freedom and libertarian communism.

We do not hold with stereotypical notions of a male white industrial working class. We see capitalism as a racialised, and (while patriarchy is older than capitalism) patriarchal system. Not do we idealise the working class, we are kept in ignorance and fed a diet of misinformation in order to keep us ignorant, brutalised and divided. We are deliberately distracted from our common interests and conned into the mistaken belief that we have interests in common with our 'native' bosses and politicians.

For us the working class consists in the vast majority of humanity and in this majority lies the hope for a social revolution that can save us all from the barbarism and destruction of capitalist greed and war.

MAY DAY

Why we march
Why we organise

May Day has become a rather muted affair in Ireland. We can hardly blame the restrictions of the pandemic. In the South at least decades of social partnership and a bureaucracy more concerned with controlling Union members than allowing workers to take their own struggles forward have left the labour movement looking increasingly tired, dusty and irrelevant.

Capitalism is destroying not only lives and livelihoods, it is destroying the very planet will live on. In the face of this where is the urgency and solidarity we desperately need?

We march on May Day to remember the heroic struggles of the poor and working class in the past. Not just in Dublin or Belfast but across the globe workers march in commemoration of the anarchist Haymarket Martyrs and the struggle for the 8 hour day.

On May 4, 1886, Chicago police were breaking up a rally in support of workers striking for an eight-hour day when a bomb was thrown into their ranks. The explosion and ensuing gunfire killed seven cops and at least four civilians: many more were injured.

Four anarchist labour activists were later hanged for the bombing, despite the absence of any credible evidence. One escaped the hangman's noose by killing himself in prison. The lack of evidence was made up for in packed juries, the whipping up of public hysteria (at least among the middle classes), packed juries and a biased judge.

The judicial killing of George Engel, Adolph Fischer, Albert Parsons, and August Spies sparked massive protests in the United States and across the world. The struggle for a shorter working day was reinvigorated around the world. In 1889 May 1st was declared International Workers' Day to commemorate the 'Haymarket Martyrs,' and took the eight-hour-day campaign worldwide.

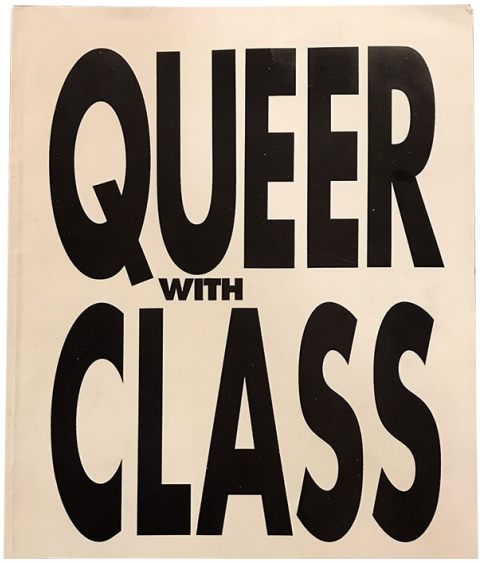
We need to reclaim the true revolutionary heritage of May Day as International Workers' Day. This means reclaiming, reorganising and a building a labour movement that is up to the task we are confronted with. That task is not just to attempt to stave off the worst attacks, or even to win the occasional pay rise or other concession. The task is nothing less than getting shot of capitalism, exploitation and oppression once and for all. Join us and help build a combative labour movement that consciously aims to replace capital and state with libertarian communism.

NO TOLERANCE!

The horrific homophobic murders of Aidan Moffitt and Michael Snee in Sligo provoked an outpouring of grief, disgust, and anger across Ireland. There can be no tolerance for homophobia, biphobia or transphobia and we stand in solidarity with all those at the receiving end of these attacks and discrimination.

Despite the gains made with marriage equality, better legislative protections against discrimination and the successes of the 'pink pound' fear of verbal and physical attack, the reality of ongoing discrimination is still the reality of life for LGBTQ+ people here. Aidan and Michael's killings happened in the same week as the brutal beating of Evan Somers. Evan was viciously beaten, after being subjected to a verbal homophobic attack, in Dublin city centre.

This is the reality against which the Trans rights group TENI reports 93% of trans young people struggling with anxiety, stress and depression. We also condemn the attempts that have been made to use these murders to stir up racism. It is clear that deadly bigotry is still with us despite the progressive rhetoric of the state. In the USA, UK, Hungary and Brazil a backlash against the rights won by LGBTQ+ peoples gathers momentum. Victor Orban and Jair Bolsonaro are freely spewing homophobic and transphobic hate as they seek to roll back on rights previously won. In Britain, the Tory Party has consciously excluded trans people from their plans to ban conversion therapy while in the USA In the US, we are seeing the introduction of a series of homophobic "Don't Say Gay" laws. China's one-party capitalist dictatorship has also gone on an offensive against LGBTQ rights and the right to bodily autonomy.



We need real equality and real freedom.

The working class includes people of every imaginable gender, it includes the vast majority of humanity, if organised, we can change the world for the better through a united resistance to oppression and exploitation. No more deaths on our streets!

Organise!

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Email (North): OrganiseASI@gmail.com

Class War

Twitter coming soon!

Black Star

Twitter: @BlackStarNrnIrn

Dearg is Dubh

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Twitter: @Dearg_is_Dubh

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Just Books - Belfast Anarchist Collective

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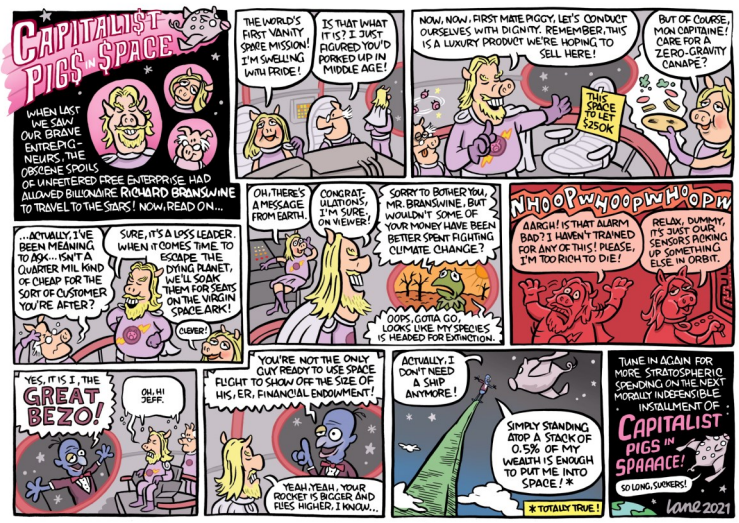
CAPITALIST PIGS IN SPACE


CAPITALIST PIGS IN SPACE
WHEN LAST WE SAW OUR BRAVE ENTREPRENEURS, THE OBSCENE SPOILS OF UNFETTERED FREE ENTERPRISE, HAD ALLOWED BILLIONAIRE RICHARD BRANSWINE TO TRAVEL TO THE STARS! NOW, READ ON...
THE WORLD'S FIRST VANITY SPACE MISSION! I'M SWELLING WITH PRIDE!
IS THAT WHAT IT IS? I JUST FIGURED YOU'D PORKED UP IN MIDDLE AGE!
NOW, NOW, FIRST MATE PIGGY. LET'S CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH DIGNITY. REMEMBER, THIS IS A LUXURY PRODUCT WE'RE HOPING TO SELL HERE!
THIS SPACE TO LET $250K
BUT OF COURSE, MON CAPITAINE! CARE FOR A ZERO-GRAVITY CANAPE?
...ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK - ISN'T A QUARTER MIL KIND OF CHEAP FOR THE SORT OF CUSTOMER YOU'RE AFTER?
SURE, IT'S A LOSS LEADER. WHEN IT COMES TIME TO ESCAPE THE DYING PLANET, WE'LL SOAK THEM FOR SEATS ON THE VIRGIN SPACE ARK!
CLEVER!
OH, THERE'S A MESSAGE FROM EARTH.
CONGRATULATIONS, I'M SURE, ON VIEWER!
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, MR. BRANSWINE. BUT WOULDN'T SOME OF YOUR MONEY HAVE BEEN BETTER SPENT FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE?
OOPS. GOTTA GO. LOOKS LIKE MY SPECIES IS HEADED FOR EXTINCTION.
WHOOPWHOOPWHOOPW
AARGH! IS THAT ALARM BAD? I HAVEN'T TRAINED FOR ANY OF THIS! PLEASE, I'M TOO RICH TO DIE!
RELAX, DUMMY, IT'S JUST OUR SENSORS PICKING UP SOMETHING ELSE IN ORBIT.
YES, IT'S I, THE GREAT BEZO!
OH, HI JEFF.
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE READY TO USE SPACE FLIGHT TO SHOW OFF THE SIZE OF HIS, ER, FINANCIAL ENDOWMENT!
YEAH, YEAH, YOUR ROCKET IS BIGGER AND FLIES HIGHER, I KNOW...
ACTUALLY, I DON'T NEED A SHIP ANYMORE!
SIMPLY STANDING ATOP A STACK OF 0.5% OF MY WEALTH IS ENOUGH TO PUT ME INTO SPACE! *
* TOTALLY TRUE!
TUNE IN AGAIN FOR MORE STRATOSPHERIC SPENDING ON THE NEXT MORALLY INDEFENSIBLE INSTALLMENT OF CAPITALIST PIGS IN SPAAAACE!
SO LONG, SUCKERS!
lane 2021

It comes really close we suppose but the comic strip by Lane that we've unapologetically ripped off from the Boston Globe doesn't quite do the obscenity of the latest excursion of billionaires into space justice.

We are facing global destruction at the hands of a system that serves the rich and fucks the rest of us over. Climate destruction, war, greed, hunger, misery, extinction stalk the earth. But stalk makes it seem mysterious and otherworldly, no? Really all of this is a direct result of the same system that robs us, devastates resources, and allows the super rich to play astronauts!

This is a, well we have to admit to being at a loss for words… What exactly can we call a drive by corporations and millionaires to keep the capitalist economy growing beyond the spent resources of one planet? The relentless push for 'growth' (profit) that is capitalism cannot be sustained on our planet. But they don't give a flying fuck. They think they have the money to find another!

Build An Anarchist Alternative!

Before it's too late...

Organise! is an anarchist political group in Ireland who take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, particularly those organised on anarcho-syndicalist lines.

We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked over by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, and sick of a greedy bosses and landlords getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy, racism and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier…

The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

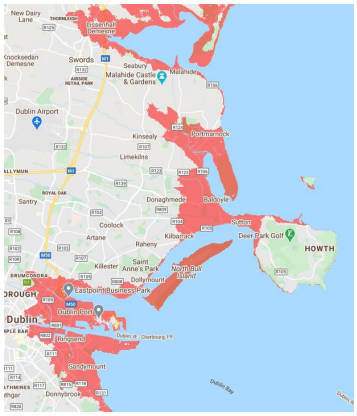
We currently have members in the North and members and contacts in Cork, Dublin and other parts of the South where we are actively building our membership. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

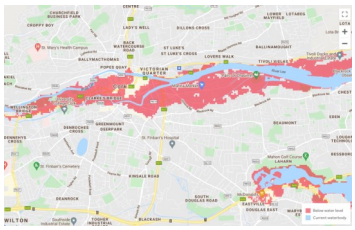
To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at https://organiseanarchistsireland.com and send an email to:

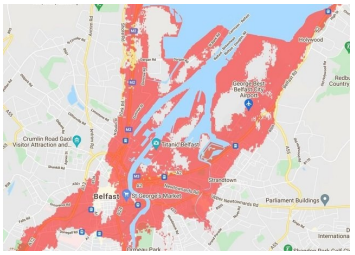
OrganiseASyndIreland@gmail.com

One of the most worrying consequences of capitalist growth (greed) at any cost is the rapidly melting icecaps and rapidly rising sea levels. Capitalist 'efforts' to curb carbon emissions really do amount to little more than selling umbrellas to a drowning planet.

Below are the forecasts for Dublin (and the Isle of Howth), Cork and Belfast in 2050 - only 28 years from now! Red is underwater.







Gáis, Gáis, Gáis...

As the cost of living soars Bord Gáis has taken a leaf out of the book of energy providers north of the border and hiked prices by 27% for electricity and 39% for gas. Rent, petrol, groceries, the cost of everything is on the rise while real wages go down. Bord Gáis complain that their profits are down but they still made 33.5 Euro in a year! A closer look reveals that their UK parent company Centrica doubled its profits to £948 million in 2021!